

In the Claims

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings.

1. (Currently Amended) A packing case (~~1, 60, 106, 130, 267, 340, 342, 420, 514~~) in two sections, comprising two shapes made of corrugated board sheet material, namely including a first shape (~~13, 31, 62, 102, 131, 141, 251, 302, 343, 400, 501~~) forming a tray (~~12~~) and a second shape (~~21, 40, 73, 103, 142, 259, 350, 359, 401, 502~~) forming a lid (~~3~~) imbricated with said tray, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the case comprises a first transverse side wall (~~4, 81~~) arranged to be grasped by a user, joined to the rest of the case by partially precut connecting lines (~~7, 8, 9, 44, 44', 44'', 38, 52, 71, 80, 109, 114, 116, 134, 135, 136, 137~~) allowing said first wall to be manually torn off by the user from the rest of the case,

and in that one or the other side walls (~~15, 20, 64, 68, 104, 104'~~) of the tray are fixed respectively to one or the other side walls of the lid solely by one or more partially precut portions (~~16, 17, 46, 66, 120, 120', 156, 156', 266, 345, 346, 416~~) and/or one or more gluing points, enabling a separation between walls by manual parting achieved by the application of a force perpendicularly to the walls.

2. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the first transverse side wall is formed by the gluing together of two first side walls (~~5, 6, 70, 79~~) of the lid and tray respectively, one upon the other.

3. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut, upper connecting line (~~44''~~) of the first side wall of the case with the lid is situated on the lid.

4. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut, upper connecting line (~~7, 44~~) of the first side wall of the case with the lid is situated on said first wall (~~6, 43~~) so as to leave an upper fascia (~~26~~) attached to the lid following tearing-off.

5. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut, upper connecting line (44) of the first transverse side wall of the case with the lid coincides with the edge of the upper face of the lid.

6. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises means (7) for grasping the first side wall of the case, comprising a handle constituted by a recess centered on the upper connecting line (7) of said wall.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut portion(s) (46) and/or gluing points belong to the second transverse side wall (42) of the case, opposite to the tear-off, first transverse side wall (43).

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8. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the case comprises at least two partially precut portions (16, 17, 66; 120, 120'; 156'; 345; 346; 416) or gluing points respectively situated at some place on the longitudinal side walls of the case.

9. (Currently Amended) The case (1, 60) as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the lid is imbricated in the tray.

10. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut portion(s) (16, 17; 66) belong to the tray.

11. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut portion(s) (16, 17; 46; 66) are precut according to an open line.

12. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the partially precut section(s) of leaves are cut according to a closed line.

13. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the first shape (13, 31, 62) comprises a series of three leaves, namely including a central leaf (14, 32, 63) forming the bottom of the tray laterally joined by first fold lines (33) to two side leaves (15, 34, 64) forming, at least in part, the longitudinal side walls of said tray, said series comprising at

least one transverse flap (5, 70) situated on one side of said leaves to which it the transverse flap is joined by at least one partially precut, second fold line (9, 9', 38, 71) perpendicular to the first fold lines, said transverse flap (5, 70) forming, at least in part, the first transverse side wall of the tray.

14. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 13, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ each side leaf (15) comprises two partially precut portions (16, 17).

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15. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the second shape comprises three panels (41, 42, 43; 74, 75), namely including a rectangular central panel (41, 74) forming the upper face of the lid of the case laterally joined by third fold lines (42, 44) to two side panels (42, 43; 75) forming, at least in part, the side walls of the case, joined together with the first shape respectively by said lateral, partially precut portion(s) (46), or said gluing points, on the one hand, and by gluing lines, on the other hand.

16. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the second shape (73) comprises two sets of side flaps (76, 77, 78, 79) situated at some place on said panels, to which they are joined by fourth fold lines situated facing said second fold lines (71, 72) of the first shape.

17. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the second shape (21) comprises at least four panels (22) respectively mutually joined by fourth fold lines (23, 23') parallel to the second fold lines (9) of the first shape, and an end gluing tongue (22'), the four panels comprising a set of flaps (24, 25) situated on the side opposite to the first shape (13).

18. (Currently Amended) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ each leaf (32, 34; 63, 64) of the first shape comprises a transverse flap, namely including a central flap (70) joined to the central leaf and forming a partially precut bottom portion, and two side flaps joined to the side leaves and glued on said central flap.

19. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ each shape comprises a series of four primary leaves (104, 104', 104", 104''', 110, 111, 112, 113, 146, 147, 148, 149, 160, 162, 164, 166) terminated by a fixing tongue (140, 130, 153, 168), said primary leaves and said tongue being mutually joined by mutually parallel first fold lines (105, 105', 114, 114', 145, 145', 169, 169'), directly or by means of secondary leaves (150, 151, 152, 153, 161, 163, 165, 167), and an assembly (108, 115, 155, 170) of first side flaps, disposed on one side of said series of primary leaves and joined to the latter by second fold lines (109, 109', 116, 116', 154, 154', 171, 171') perpendicular to said first fold lines and intended to form, at least partially, the bottom of the tray, on the one hand, and the top of the upper section of the case, on the other hand.

20. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 19, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the fixing tongue (113a, 168) of the second element extends along one section only of the side edge of the adjacent leaf to which it is joined, above the fixing tongue of the first element.

21. (Withdrawn) The case as claimed in claim 19, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the primary leaves (146, 147, 148, 149, 160, 162, 164, 66) are mutually separated by secondary leaves (150, 151, 152, 153, 161, 163, 165, 167) to form an eight-sided case, with cut corners.

22. (Currently Amended) An assembly of shapes for the formation of a case, further comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ two shapes, each respectively formed from a central leaf or panel and from side leaves or panels, namely including a first shape intended to form a tray and a second shape intended to form the lid of the case,

the first shape (13, 31, 62) comprising a second transverse flap or at least one side leaf (15, 64) joined to the central leaf and arranged to be joined together to an adjacent side panel (22, 42, 75) of the second shape by means of at least one partially pre-cut portion (16, 17, 46, 66) belonging to one of the shapes and glued to the other shape,

and a first transverse flap (5, 70) joined on the other side to the central leaf (14, 32, 63) by a partially pre-cut connecting line (9, 9', 38, 71), and in that a side panel of the second shape is fit to be glued to the first transverse flap and is joined to the central panel by a partially pre-cut connecting line, the said first transverse flap and side panel being arranged so as to be grasped by

a user, in that they are thus joined to the rest of the assembly by partially pre-cut connecting lines.

23. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the side leaves (34, 64) of the first shape each comprise a flap, respectively joined to the corresponding leaf by a partially pre-cut fold line on the side of the first transverse flap (5, 70).

24. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the first shape comprises at least one partially pre-cut flap and the second shape at least four panels (22), one of which joined to its two adjacent panels by partially pre-cut fold lines (23) and provided with a flap joined directly or by means of a fascia-forming panel portion to the said panel, and intended to form the first vertical bottom wall of the case, by a partially pre-cut fold line.

25. (Withdrawn) The assembly (1) of shapes for a packing case, as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ each element comprises a series of four primary leaves (104, 104', 104'', 104''', 110, 111, 112, 113, 143, 160, 162, 164, 166) terminated by a fixing tongue (104a, 113a), said primary leaves and said tongue being mutually joined by mutually parallel first fold lines (105, 105', 114, 114', 145, 145', 169, 169'), directly or by means of secondary leaves (150, 151, 152, 163, 161, 163, 165, 167), and an assembly (108, 115, 155, 70) of first side flaps, disposed on one side of said series of primary leaves and joined to the latter by second fold lines (109, 109', 116, 116', 154, 154', 171, 171') perpendicular to said first fold lines and intended to form, at least partially, the bottom of the tray-forming first element, on the one hand, and the top of the second element, on the other hand, the two elements being arranged to be mutually joined by at least one precut leaf portion (120, 156, 156') in one of said primary leaves of the first element, referred to as the outer leaf (104, 146, 148), said portion being fixed to the corresponding primary leaf facing the second element, referred to as the inner leaf, and in that a transverse leaf (104''') of the first shape and a transverse leaf (111) of the second shape are joined to the flap and to the corresponding adjacent leaves by precut connecting lines (109', 105', 114', 116', 154', 145', 169', 171').

26. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the precut connecting line(s) which are to correspond to the connecting line of the first side wall of the case, once formed with the lid, are situated on the lid.

27. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the precut upper connecting line which is to correspond to the connecting line of the first side wall of the case, once formed, coincides with the upper edge of the case, once formed.

28. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the precut leaf portion(s) (~~120, 156, 156'~~) are cut according to a closed line.

29. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the precut leaf portion(s) are cut according to an open line.

30. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 25, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the fixing tongue (~~113a, 168~~) of the second element extends along one section only of the side edge of the adjacent leaf to which it is joined, above the fixing tongue of the first element.

31. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the primary leaves (~~146, 147, 148, 149, 160, 162, 164, 166~~) are mutually separated by secondary leaves (~~150, 151, 152, 153, 161, 163, 165, 167~~) to form an eight-sided case, with cut corners.

32. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the concretization is effected by winding the two shapes which have previously been glued together and joined together by at least one of said first portions around a mass of predetermined dimensions.

33. (Withdrawn) The assembly of shapes (~~130, 142~~) as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in~~ that the precut portions run obliquely from the junctions between first and second fold lines toward the outside of the first shape.

34. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the pre-cut portions belong to the first shape.

35. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes for making a case as claimed in claim 22, further comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ two shapes, each respectively formed from a central leaf or panel and from two side leaves or panels, namely including a first shape intended to form a tray and a second shape intended to form an upper section of the case, said shapes being fit to be mutually joined together by their respective side leaves and panels solely by means of at least two lateral pre-cut portions belonging to one of the shapes and fit to be glued to the other shape.

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36. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 35, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the central leaf of the first shape comprises a central flap in the extension of the said bottom provided with two pre-cut bottom portions and the side leaves of the first shape each comprise a side flap fit to be glued respectively on the said pre-cut bottom portions.

37. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 35, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the central panel of the second shape comprises a central flap in the extension of the said panel provided with two pre-cut lid portions and the side panels of the second shape each comprise a side flap fit to be glued respectively on the said pre-cut lid portions.

38. (Currently Amended) The assembly of shapes as claimed in claim 35, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the first shape and the second shape each comprise a set of one or more flaps, the said sets being respectively joined to the corresponding leaves and panels by pre-cut fold lines.

39. (Withdrawn) The assembly as claimed in claim 35, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the lateral pre-cut portions run obliquely from the junction between first and second fold lines towards the outside of the first shape.

40. (Currently Amended) The assembly as claimed in claim 35, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the first shape comprises three pre-cut flaps and the second shape at least four panels, one of which provided with a flap joined to the said panel, intended to form the bottom of the case, by a pre-cut fold line.

41. (Currently Amended) A process for the realization of a packing case as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~:

- the first and second shapes are fixed together solely by means of at least one pre-cut portion and by means of panels and/or of flaps respectively joined to the rest of the shape to which they belong by partially pre-cut connecting lines, this in order to form the packing case, the display tray of which can be manually separated from the upper section of the case by simple traction of one of the shapes towards the outside of the case close to the said pre-cut portion.

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42. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 41, for the realization of a packing case (1, 18, 36, 67, 68, 82, 91, 110, 118, 127) of polygonal cross section out of two shapes made of corrugated board sheet material, namely including a first shape (3, 20, 37, 51, 69, 85, 96, 111, 130, 153) fit to form a display tray and a second shape (4, 27, 45, 59, 72, 85', 100, 112, 123, 142, 155) fit to form the upper section of the case, one of the shapes comprising at least two pre-cut portions (12, 24, 43, 66, 75, 76, 78, 84, 99, 115, 121, 128) in the said shape, wherein:
~~characterized in that~~

the said portions are flat-coated with glue,

one of the said portions belonging to one of the shapes is applied flat onto the other portion, the assembly of shapes which is thus joined together is wound around a mass of determined dimensions, and

then the other previously glue-coated portion is applied to the other shape, following winding and folding-down around the said mass, in such a way as to form the said packing case.

43. (Currently Amended) A machine (150) for the realization of a packing case according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 21, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the said machine comprises:

- means (162) for coating the said pre-cut portions (16, 17, 46, 66, 120, 120', 156, 156', 266, 345, 346, 416) with glue, and

- means (152, 154, 156) for positioning the shapes one upon the other to allow a first of the pre-cut portions to be glued onto the other shape, the fold lines of the one of the shapes being placed relative to the fold lines of the other shape to allow winding around a mass of determined dimensions,

- application means (157) for fixing the said first pre-cut portion onto the other shape by gluing,

- means for fixing together a flap or wall of a shape on a flap or wall of the other shape, the said flaps or walls being joined to the rest of their respective shape by partially pre-cut connecting lines, and

- and means (160, 164, 165) for forming the box by winding and folding-down of the shapes thus joined together around a mass (160) of determined dimensions, for fixing solely by gluing.

44. (Currently Amended) The machine as claimed in claim 43, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the mass of determined dimensions is a mandrel (160) of polygonal cross section.

45. (Currently Amended) The machine as claimed in claim 43, wherein the machine ~~characterized in that~~ it is arranged so that the mass of determined dimensions is constituted by products to be packed.

46. (Currently Amended) The machine as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 43 to 45, further comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ two feed magazines (152, 154) disposed at ~~some place~~ on the machine for forming of the shapes.

47. (Currently Amended) A process for opening a case and for shelving the product contained therein, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ a transverse wall of the case is manually torn off, the said wall being joined to the rest of the case by partially pre-cut connecting lines, the walls and the lid of the case are manually separated from the bottom, the said walls and the lid being attached to the bottom solely by at least one partially pre-cut portion and/or one or more gluing points, the bottom is pulled horizontally in order to free the base of the products which are on top of it, and then the lid is removed in order to free completely the products contained therein.

48. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 47 for opening a case (1, 60) of polygonal cross section formed out of two shapes made of cardboard or corrugated board sheet material, namely including a first shape (13, 36, 62) fit to form a tray (2) and a second shape (21, 40, 73) fit to form the lid (3) of the case, the said case being filled with rigid or semi-rigid products (54, 82), wherein: ~~characterized in that,~~

- the case comprising a first transverse side wall (64, 81) joined to the rest of the packing by partially precut connecting lines allowing tearing-off:

- the first transverse side wall (4, 81) is torn off manually, in one stroke,

- the walls of the rest of the tray are manually separated, by perpendicular traction, from the walls of the rest of the lid, said walls being solely fixed together by means of partially precut wall portions (16, 17; 46; 66) or by easily separable gluing points,

- the tray (2) is pulled horizontally in order to free the tray from the products which are on top of it, and

- then the lid (3) is removed in order to free completely the products contained therein.

49. (Currently Amended) The case-opening process as claimed in claim 48, wherein ~~characterized in that,~~ the lid (3) comprising a fascia (26) following tearing-off of the first transverse side wall (4), the lid (3) is pivoted upward in order to slide the fascia (26) away from the products (54) prior to horizontal pulling of the lid (3).